

# News Release



U.S. Department of Labor  
Office of Public Affairs  
San Francisco, Calif.  
Release Number: 06-1664-SAN (SF-130)

For Immediate Release  
Date: Oct. 2, 2006  
Contact: Roger Gayman  
Phone: (415) 975-4742

## **Mine Safety and Health Conference to be held in Mesa, Ariz., this October**

**MESA, Ariz.** – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), along with the mining industry, other government agencies and educational groups are sponsoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Joint Western Regional Mine Safety and Health Conference, Oct. 23-26 at the Phoenix Marriott Mesa Convention Center, 200 North Centennial Way, in Mesa.

David G. Dye, acting administrator for MSHA, will deliver the keynote address on Oct. 24. The purpose of the conference is to build partnerships focusing on zero fatalities, injuries and occupational illnesses in the mining industry; foster relationships and open communications between industry and federal agencies; and create a better understanding of how to send miners home safe and healthy after every shift.

“By working together and sharing our knowledge, experience and expertise, we can find solutions to the common problems that we face in the mining industry,” said Dye.

The conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 24, with a welcoming ceremony. There will be numerous networking opportunities for mining associations and companies, safety and health professionals, state grant coordinators, mine workers and students.

Winners of the annual Sentinels of Safety awards will be honored at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 26. The Sentinels of Safety award, which recognizes the achievement of outstanding safety records in mining operations around the country, is the oldest established award for occupational safety. “We are extremely proud to honor the Sentinel of Safety award winners that lead the way in mine safety and health,” said Dye.

For more information on the conference, visit [www.fireacademy.unr.edu/msha](http://www.fireacademy.unr.edu/msha) or contact Ramona Broadnax (707) 447-9844, [broadnax.ramona@dol.gov](mailto:broadnax.ramona@dol.gov), Jerry Kissell (303) 231-5683, [kissell.jerry@dol.gov](mailto:kissell.jerry@dol.gov); or Karen Craig (303) 231-5677, [craig.karen@dol.gov](mailto:craig.karen@dol.gov).

###